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Netta Perry—A Mapua Doyenne

Long-time and much loved Mapua resident, Netta Perry (nee Rose), recently celebrated her 100th birthday. Netta was born in Staple Street, Motueka, on 16 June, 1915, and was raised on a farm in Rose-dale where her parents grew hops.

Netta attended Neudorf School. From the age of five she would walk the 3.5 miles (5.6km) to and from the school. At the age of 14 she left school and travelled into Nelson to the Nelson Technical School for three days a week to study English, art and sewing.

On 17 June, 1929, the day after her 14th birthday



the 7.8 magnitude Murchison earthquake hit the area. Netta remembers it as a very frightening experience as the earth moved under her feet and she was unable to remain standing.

Netta married the late Lionel Perry in 1935. For the first six months of their

marriage they lived in Vanguard Street in Nelson and Lionel worked on a fishing boat. Lionel then went to work in the forestry and they moved to the forestry settlement in Flaxmore Road, Harakeke.

The first vehicle they owned was a Baby Austin. Lionel loved cars and his passion for them led to his opening the garage (now Perry's Auto Services) in 1939. Over the years many cars were added to the Perry collection, many of which could be seen in the paddock behind their house in Aranui Road. Netta and Lionel were also very active in the Nelson Vintage Car Club and attended numerous rallies in their little red Austin 7.

Netta and Lionel had five children: Joyce, Ted, Honk, Lin and Wendy. There are 12 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren and eight great great grandchildren. Many of the family still live in the local district.

In 1939 Netta and her friend Phyllis Busch opened the Mapua Library Service in the sunporch of Sam Busch's home at 3 Toru Street where Mike Perry now lives and has his pottery. After a number of moves our very successful community library is now located on the corner of Toru Street and Aranui Road next door to where it was originally. Netta was always a keen gardener and especially loves roses. She joined the Rose Society and was an active member for many years. Although she received no formal training, Netta was a gifted florist. She was often asked to make bouquets for funerals, weddings and other events. Amongst the biggest challenges in her florist career were her entries in the flower shows held at the church and in the Mapua Hall.

The Enterprise Drapery was opened in 1950 by Netta on Aranui Road where the Zoom Hair Salon now is. The building was originally an old bach moved from Mr A. Brown's property. She sold all sorts of haberdashery with some clothing. Her best customers were the orchardists. Netta shifted the business across the road into part of Perry's Garage to enable her daughter, Lin, to run a hairdressing salon which she ran successfully for a number of years.

On 27 January, 1986, Lionel died from heart-related problems. He and Netta had been married for 50 happy years. In 2007, at the age of 90, Netta moved from her home of 57 years to a smaller unit down on the flat in Iwa Street with all-day sun, a manageable garden and a cat door so her cats could come and go at their leisure.

Netta has kept young by being active in community groups, making new friends and being open to everyone no matter what their age, having a great sense of humour and a positive outlook. About a year ago Netta moved to the Jack Inglis Friendship Rest home in Motueka, which she is enjoying immensely – plenty of socializing and many new friends!

To quote great grandson, Willem: "Few people have had the chance to live through so many changes; from horse and cart to cars and planes, from blackboards in classrooms to computers and from no phones at all to party lines to cell phones."

We wish Netta all the best for the future as we are sure everybody does who has had the good fortune to meet or know her.

Pete Hancock



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- ❖ **LIVE MUSIC WED JULY 8TH 7pm "W.S.S.S."**
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Nepal Calling for Volunteers



Each year as well as building affordable homes for families in New Zealand, Habitat for Humanity New Zealand helps hundreds of volunteers travel overseas to build homes alongside the people who will live in them. Nepal is a popular destination and Habitat NZ has sent teams there in previous years (2010, 2012 and 2014). In November 2015 Habitat NZ will send 200 volunteers to Pokhara, Nepal's third largest city and home to three of the ten highest mountains in the world. Pokhara is 200km west of the capital, Kathmandu.

The 200 Kiwis will be part of a worldwide contingent of 2000 volunteers from all walks of life, ages and backgrounds, who will come together to build 100 homes in November.

Jonathan Tomlinson will lead a team from the Nelson area. Jonathan has been involved with Habitat for several years. In 2012 he took time off from rebuilding his own earthquake-damaged house in Christchurch to travel with Habitat to Mongolia to build homes there. When he returned he began volunteering with the Christchurch affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, helping establish the Restore there.

"For me it was simply one of those life-changing events. I went to Mongolia and joined volunteers from all over the world. They came together to work alongside the families who would live in the homes we were building. Everyone set aside their personal circumstances, status and egos, to work as a team. It was very humbling." recounts Jonathan.

Jonathan is no stranger to building or earthquakes. He rebuilt his own home which was damaged in the Christchurch earthquakes and is now building a "Tiny House" in Mapua and intends to run workshops to help others build their own tiny homes.

You do not need building experience to join the team. More important is a willingness to get stuck in and make a difference, although the work is physical so you will need to be in good health, fit and agile. The 35sq m houses are built with concrete floors, treated bamboo frames and cement plaster walls on the bamboo lath, and an iron roof.

How can you help? You can join Jonathan's team and build with us, or you could sponsor another person to attend or help with their fund-raising, or you can simply help by telling your friends about what we are doing.

Nepal is made for explorers. People are drawn to the snow-capped mountains of the Himalayas and the allure of Kathmandu's magical temples and diverse landscapes. So whether you're after a trekking adventure or a personal reflective journey, make Nepal your destination for an adventure with purpose this November and get in touch with Habitat today for more information.

Contact Kosala at Habitat Auckland on 09 579 4111 ext 221 or Jonathan at info@turakina.com to request more information.

Jonathan Tomlinson

Dominion Flats Planting Teams 'Plodding on'

Work continues at Dominion Flats Reserve as a small band of the faithful continues with the planting. We have had two public planting days with 16 people attending each which made a big dent in the 4000-plus plants we have in this autumn planting. The ground is fantastic now after the welcome rain we have had so digging is easy in most places.

We have about 60 kahikatea trees that are probably four years old which makes them stand taller than the grasses and gives them a head start. We also have some precious rimu trees this time, which are now dotted around the area.

We have about 1000 plants still to put in the ground so are plodding on.

We go several times a week and try to be there always on Tuesday mornings in case someone else wants to join us. Besides the planting there is also a lot of plant-releasing, or weeding, around the plants that needs to be done and can be done by anyone at any time. Care is needed as the ones that appear to be dead at the top, or look like a bare stake, can have new growth at the base and need to be nurtured.

It is great to see so many people using the area for walking, dog-walking, cycling or as access from A to B.

I hope you have taken note of the wonderful information board we now have at the Mapua Drive entrance which along with interesting facts, has a list of those who have helped get the project to this stage. We still have a long way to go so if you would like to help—with a spade, with weeding or money to fund the project we would love to hear from you. Please phone 540-3830. Meanwhile, back to the swamp...

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Mapua School Centenary Celebrations

When: 6 November 2015

Mapua School will celebrate 100 years of education in September 2015. The centenary celebrations will take place over the weekend of 6th, 7th and 8th November 2015 and will be based around the Mapua area with exciting and diverse options on offer.

Please get in touch if you would like further information or a registration pack.

For more info please contact:

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Mapua Health Centre

We would like to welcome Rachel Lines (a final -year medical student) to the practice, starting on 23 July. During her time with us Rachel will sit in on consults (with the patient's consent) as well as consulting patients under the supervision of our doctors. This is a great opportunity for medical students to obtain a greater understanding of primary health-care in the rural community.

Dr Tim Phillips holds regular minor surgery and skin check clinics every Wednesday. These clinics are proving to be very popular and frequently pick up things that could be serious or even life-threatening. The skin checks take about 30 minutes and the main focus is to check for any suspicious moles or lesions. This is a full comprehensive body check and will give you the opportunity to discuss any issues you have or that may arise. Appointments can be made with one of our receptionists on 540-2211.

In case you still want to make use of the flu vaccine, it is still available for free to those over 65 years or if you have a chronic medical condition such as asthma requiring regular medication, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Also, MOH guidelines recommend all adults have a tetanus booster at ages 45 and 65 years. We are in the process of updating our records. However, if you would like to have a booster, check your status or update your records (because you have had it elsewhere) then please give us a call.

Zero fees for under-13s

From 1 July 2015, all children under 13 are eligible for free general practice visits, both during the day and after-hours. Under-13s are also exempt from

the standard \$5 pharmacy charge for each prescription item from 1 July 2015.

The 'zero fees' scheme aims to improve child health outcomes by reducing financial barriers to primary health care. Improving access to primary care can reduce complications from childhood illnesses and reduce the number of children presenting to hospital emergency departments.

What does the scheme cover?

The zero-fees scheme applies to a standard day-time visit to a GP or nurse at the usual practice where the child is enrolled, or to an after-hours visit to a participating clinic. It also applies to injury related visits covered by ACC.

During the day if you are not going to your regular practice you may be charged a fee; make an appointment with your regular practice if you can. Fees for extended consultations, procedures and extra services, such as certificates or equipment, will continue to be charged in the usual way.

What about after-hours care?

DHBs will ensure that children under 13 have access to zero-fee after-hours care and prescription medicines in their local area. After-hours services are designed for urgent visits when the child's regular practice is closed and where the child needs to be seen before the practice opens.

Where to go for advice?

Talk to us or your pharmacist for more information or visit www.health.govt.nz. You can also get advice from a trained nurse by calling Healthline on 0800 611 116 or Plunketline on 0800 933 922.

Patient Portal

We are about to begin a new patient portal service called ManageMyHealth. This is a web portal that allows patients to have access to their own medical notes. This is part of a government policy and is being gradually introduced around the country. The information-sharing system has been carefully designed to ensure full privacy and security. Initially, we will look at making lab results and repeat prescriptions available for those who wish to take part in this opportunity. There will be a small annual fee as the system is not subsidised and has both setup and ongoing costs. Once we are more familiar with the system we will look at making other options available over time, such as access to medical notes, messag-

There are a number of important national and global events for the month, including:

- 1-30 Women's Refuge Awareness Month womensrefuge.org.nz
- 3 Term 2 ends - Primary, Intermediate & Secondary schools
- 11 World Population Day un.org/en/events/populationday
- 20 Term 3 begins - Primary, Intermediate & Secondary schools
- 27 Māori Language Week www.telaurawhiri.govt.nz
- 28 Hepatitis Awareness Day www.hepfoundation.org.nz

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Mapua Bowling Club

The Write Bias

The club re-elected Michael Busby as president at the recent AGM. Kevin Brown has taken on the treasurer's role and Margaret Busby is the new secretary. Ben Whitten will continue in the role of greenkeeper. Chris Green is in charge of catering and Barbara Brown is the club publicity officer.

Sue England has been the Club Captain for the past several years but she felt it was time for a change so did not put her name forward for the position for this upcoming year. Sue has served the club in sterling fashion and the club is appreciative of all that she has done. The new Club Captain is yet to be appointed.

With the cold winter weather settling in, the club members are enjoying the Friday night social evenings involving in-door bowls, table tennis, pool and cards which are held in the clubrooms every first and third Friday.

The club was fortunate and is grateful to have recently received a \$500 grant from the Mapua/Ruby Bay & District Community Trust towards the cost of green maintenance of the turf that was renovated this past season. It is during the winter season that turf receives much tender loving care in preparation for the new season.

For information about the club or booking the clubhouse and facilities please call the secretary, Margaret Busby, on 544-6325.

Barbara Brown

Book Review

Elizabeth is Missing by Emma Healey. Reviewed by Penny Brown. This book is available in the Mapua Community Library.

Don't be deceived – this is not a thriller...well, it sort of is, but not really. Maud is looking for someone whom she knows is missing, but we're never really sure who it is, and nor is she.

Maud is 90-something and slipping in and out of the fuzzy realms of dementia. Her recall of the disappearance of her sister, Sukey, is picture perfect but this is not the person she is looking for...we don't think. No, her friend Elizabeth is missing and Maud tries to tell everyone with whom she comes in contact – her long-suffering daughter, the bus driver, the desk sergeant at the local police station, her neighbours, her carers, even Elizabeth's son whom she also accuses of the inhumane treatment of his mother. Maud tries desperately to remember to remember for who she is looking. The clues which she finds she notes on scraps of paper, but when she rereads the reminders, she can't remember what the clue means. Invariably she forgets her line of inquiry and invariably ends up at the local corner shop buying yet another tin of sliced peaches to add to her cupboard full at home.

This book doesn't fit snugly in to any genre. It is not a thriller; her investigations all take place at too slow a pace

and there is too much muddled thinking. It's not a memoir because the account all centres on two specific incidents – the loss of her sister and the disappearance of her friend. It is not comic writing although there are many passages which make you smile. It is not a tragedy because for the most part Maud seems frustrated, but not unhappy.

Basically it is a book about relationships – Maud's hankering for the companionship of her lost sister; her daily interactions with her caring daughter, largely taken for granted, whose patience is sorely tried, but her temper never lost; the favoured son who lives distant enough to exclude him from caring responsibilities, but who bathes in the fuss made of him by his mother on his infrequent visits; the exchanges with her granddaughter, who likes to tease, but is never cruel.

This is the first novel by 28-year-old Emma Healey and the book is dedicated to her two grandmothers so I strongly suspect that she has some first-hand experience of living with a dementia sufferer – for me she gets it so right. This is a good read and the film rights have been sold. I look forward to seeing one of the grand dames of British cinema taking the lead role, but meanwhile get the book from the Mapua Library.

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Mapua Community Library

(Moutere Hills RSA Memorial Library)

Learn-to-Knit Workshop

This a school holiday event to be held on Tuesday 7 July and Thursday 9 July in the Mapua Library from 2pm to 4pm. It is for children (and adults) over eight years of age

If you have double knitting yarn and knitting needles size 4 or 4.5mm bring them along.

It is being hosted by the Mapua Creative Fibre group. To register and for further details, please call Val on 540-3931.

Magazines

We have added *Wilderness* magazine to our subscription list. Did you know that we have a selection of popular subscription magazines available to borrow? There is also a great range of donated magazines. Do pop in and have a look.

Winter Book Sale

Another successful sale was held and a total of \$671 was raised. Thanks so much to all who contributed – book donors, sorters, organisers, helpers and purchasers. A great day and a great result.

Children's Area

We continue to monitor what is working well in this area and it has been noted that many caregivers who read to children in the library have the child in their lap.

Do you have an armchair that is compact (ie, not chunky, as we don't have room) that would be suit-

able to sit in while reading to littlies, and that you would be happy to donate to the library? Please contact Joyce on 540-2311 if you think you have something that might do the job. Thanks.

Displays

Our current display is by the Creative Fibre Group – another sample of local talent. Thanks for sharing your work with us all.

Children's Non-Fiction Display

After the really well received dinosaur display style, we plan to extend this to other non-fiction sections in the Children's collection. Watch this space!

Lynley Worsley

Library Hours (closed Statutory Holidays)

Monday	2pm-4.30pm
Tuesday	2pm-4.30pm
Wednesday	2pm-4.30pm
Thursday	10am-12.30pm; 2pm-4.30pm
Friday	2pm-4.30pm
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Major Sponsors: Canterbury Community Trust; Lion Foundation; Tasman District Council; Mapua and Districts Business Association.

Planting Day Now 2 July

Mapua School's big planting day in Aranui Park is now scheduled for Thursday 2 July from 11.40am to about 2.30pm.

This is after the activity had to be postponed in early June because of heavy rain and wet ground conditions in the park. The planting will involve mainly reeds and grasses and complements earlier Tāne's Ark planting done by the Mapua School children.

More than 130 children will be involved, but they will work in teams for about 40 minutes each, for what is planned to be a three-hour operation overall. Parents are very welcome.

Children will work in groups of about 40 children plus parents and supervisors. The children will be guided by experts from the council's park contractors, Nelmac.

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Magna Carta, the Basis of Freedom

Have you ever read a whole Act of New Zealand legislation? There are about 1900 of them. It would take some stamina to read the Resource Management Act 1991 (843 pages) from cover to cover but there is one Act that's worth reading. It's a piece of legislation that is really the mother of all others and, at less than a page, fairly short:

Magna Carta 1297

Imprisonment, etc contrary to law. Administration of justice:

No freeman shall be taken or imprisoned, or be disseised of his freehold, or liberties, or free customs, or be outlawed, or exiled, or any other wise destroyed; nor will we not pass upon him, nor condemn him,* but by lawful judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land. We will sell to no man, we will not deny or defer to any man either justice or right. **deal with him*

That's it. Simply put, what's yours is yours and no one can take it from you unless by law. Pretty basic stuff from our perspective 800 years later, but it was revolutionary back then. Suddenly King John could not do what he wanted. Instead, everyone in the land had the right to do as they pleased and only with the support of the law could the king impose on that right. In fact, the King himself was subject to the law.

As someone in real estate, when reading the Act my attention focused immediately on the word "freehold." Yet the Magna Carta is not about land, it's about everything. Possessions, contracts and agreements are all part of this charter. Yours is yours.

Many countries still don't have that same right. In China, for example, all land is owned by the state. They allow you to lease it and build on it for set periods only with, for example, residential land reverting to the state after 70 years. Could the lure of intergen-

erational prosperity go some way to explain the apparent rush for Auckland property by the Chinese?

The original Magna Carta was signed 800 years ago last month, yet the statute above is dated 1297. Surrendering power is never easy and various twists and turns took place between 1215 and 1297. But eventually liberty prevailed and the Magna Carta was signed into statute law.

Magna Carta, and the core concept of individual liberty it now epitomises, has spread across the English-speaking world, even if it is slightly forgotten at home. The Magna Carta is the cornerstone of the US constitution. It is a curious fact that the monument at Runnymede was built with US money. In Britain the Magna Carta had not captured the public imagination; it was more akin to gravity: an important force we take for granted. New Zealand's celebrations last month were also fairly quiet.

The best known quote about the Magna Carta and property rights comes from William Pitt the Elder, 1st Earl of Chatham and British Prime Minister 1766 to 1768:

The poorest man may in his cottage bid defiance to all the forces of the Crown. It may be frail—it's roof may shake—the wind may blow through it—the storm may enter—the rain may enter—but the King of England cannot enter—all his force dares not cross the threshold of the ruined tenement!

Emotional and stirring words, although in New Zealand it seems the reference to leaky buildings grabs people's attention first.

So on this 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, please raise a glass to celebrate the freedoms we now have the liberty to take for granted.

John Bampfylde

(More comment on the Magna Carta is in Out & About With Hugh on page 15).

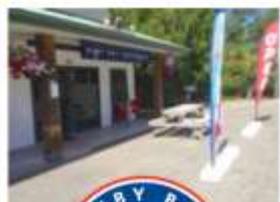


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Edited by Andrew Earlam (advertising) 540-2845, and Terry Smith (editorial) 540-3203. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors. We aim to have the newsletter out by the 1st of the month. The deadline for emailed items to coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz is the 20th of the month. Notices are a gold coin donation in the collection boxes. Club notices are free. Printed by the Tasman District Council.

Kereru Gallery Moves to Mapua.

Recently there has been an exciting and interesting addition to the varied and popular attractions at the port area in Mapua. Kereru Gallery, formerly of Mariri, has moved to a new site next to the Mapua Fire Station in Iwa Street.

This is a contemporary art gallery featuring work from a broad range of New Zealand artists whose works share a refined earthy flavour. Housed beneath the modern timber-clad home of artist, Karen Walters, and jeweller, Mike Walters, the gallery is opposite the picturesque Mapua Wharf and contains three exhibition spaces and both a jeweller's and sculptor's workshop.



Karen and Mike describe the history of the gallery and how they came to re-locate in Mapua:

“When we first moved to Tasman our intention was to find a space where we could produce our work and also display the odd piece (Karen with her sculptures and Mike with his jewellery). When we spotted the Mariri shed for lease we felt an instant connection to it. It was too big for just the two of us, so it seemed natural to broaden our vision—and turn it into a gallery where we displayed work from a variety of artists. It was wonderful having all this space for four years and housing amazing creations within a building full of such rich history and character.

However, the downsides were that it was freezing cold in winter, dusty, drafty and rather lonely at times but all in all we considered this as a glass half full. A few months prior to opening the Mariri Gallery we had bought (what once was) the little old cottage at 5 Iwa Street. We knew it was just a matter of time before it would fall apart—we just hoped it would keep standing until we had enough money to do something about it! About two years into it we had an epiphany of how awesome it would be to bring Kereru Gallery to our home in Mapua, where we could live and work and raise our kids from a location which was creatively like-minded and readily visited.

So, over a year in planning and doing, our dream became a reality and we built what is now 5 Iwa Street. We designed this place with a gallery and us

(Mike, Karen, Milla and Sol) in mind and we were heavily involved in all areas of the six-month project to make it happen. We are very happy with where we are.”

Karen did a visual arts degree and “has sculpted up a storm since!” She sculpts out of rare and beautiful native timbers and her work emerges from the stylisation of organic forms inspired by the New Zealand landscape. Mike has been making jewellery for 18 years—engagement rings, special one-off pendants, bracelets, and repairs. You name it—he can put his expert hands to it.

Mike and Karen feel the shift to Mapua is a very positive move – a better location and a purpose built workspace. On a personal level it is fantastic for the kids and for the family. They have six-year-old Milla, at Mapua School and a two-year-old, Sol. The children can both now play at home happily while Mike and Karen keep their business operating. They are also on the bike trail!

The immediate plans for the gallery are a creative and ongoing beautification process and to get the outside area looking gorgeous. Both Mike and Karen feel proud to be a part of Mapua and are proud also of all the artwork they are showing at the gallery. Says Karen, “It is all rich, earthy, edgy and unique – like a tasty visual smorgasbord.”

Website: www.kererugallery.co.nz

Pete Hancock

Want to update your residential details in the NEW MDBA Community Directory?

Post to Jane Smith at PO Box 8, Mapua 7048 or email your request to directory@rcmh.co.nz

Request for Addition/Deletion/Alteration of Listings in Mapua & Districts Community Directory

This is an: **addition/deletion/alteration** (please circle)

Name for listing

Address for listing

Phone number for listing

I am authorised to request this addition/deletion/alteration - Yes/No

Name

Signature

Date

Coastal Garden Group

Brian King introduced our guest speaker, Heather Cole, who operates the Country Trading Company based in Ruby Bay. Heather has been a popular guest speaker in the past and this time she spoke about how to make cheeses at home.

She said that she had been successfully making cheese at home for themselves for the past seven years and that this could be achieved in a modest kitchen where most of the equipment required was readily available. Stringent hygiene is very important.

Heather uses pasteurised whole milk from different animals (cows, goats, sheep), depending on what type of cheese she is making. Milk from various breeds of cows even makes a difference to the cheeses produced and whether they are under cover and fed grain or pasture-fed as in New Zealand.

From her experience making soft cheeses at home is cost effective compared with supermarket prices but hard cheeses can be a labour of love and not really cost-effective.

In the cheese-making process, the by-product whey (drained liquid from the cheese) should not be discarded as this is full of protein and nutrients and

can be used in many ways from baking, marinating meat and feeding acid-loving plants.

Heather went through the processes of making various types of cheeses, bacterial starters, equipment required, cutting, cooking and stirring the curd, removing the whey, cheddaring, salting, pressing and curing/storing.

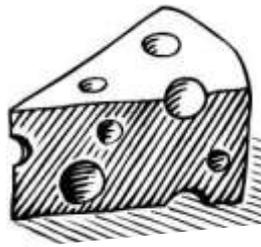
To keep the surfaces of the hard cheeses from drying out, Heather prefers to use beeswax instead of paraffin and the beeswax can also be re-used.

Once the cheese is made, storage methods are very important and vary depending on the type of cheese.

Camembert cheese is popular; it doesn't take a lot of milk to make and requires only about two weeks to mature.

Heather concluded her talk with cheeseboards of pieces of cheese for each member to taste of five of her home-made cheeses accompanied with breads, fruit pastes, chutneys, pickles and crackers supplied by the club. The cheeses that Heather had with her were camembert, gouda, smoked ricotta, chilly ricotta and mint feta. She also makes blue vein cheese but was unable to bring this to the meeting.

Judy Sisam



Here at Bounce we have been very busy. Last year we added Tāwhana Pēpi (Baby Bounce), which caters to under two-year-olds, to our programme. This has been very successful and we love being able to have siblings together. The addition of under two-year-olds has also meant that all children at Bounce enjoy the relationships and learning that occurs between the younger and older children.

What fun we had the other day. Talley's kindly dropped off a truck-load of ice chips (snow) for the children. This gave us two days of snow fun, including making some snowmen which the children insisted were called Olaf. The second day a group of our older boys enjoyed working out how to break it up as it was compacted and much more snow-like by then. They worked for nearly two hours using only their hands and feet to break it into chunks and then filled the drain to see if they could make a flood.

Luckily for Mapua (but to the disappointment of the boys) we didn't have enough snow to flood Bounce or the village.

Movie night was, once more, great fun. Our children enjoyed coming to Bounce in the evening (when it was dark) to watch *The Heffalump* movie and eat popcorn. Their parents equally enjoyed having the chance to catch up with each other and/or have a child-free moment while their children were entertained, so it was a great success all round.

Next it's the parents' turn to have a fun social evening full of laughter, wine, nibbles and creativity.

At present we have a programme focus looking at what is in the Mapua Village. We have made a map and are beginning to fill it in with all the exciting and familiar places as identified by the children. So far we have visited the Four Square, library and park. We will continue exploring over the next month as and when we are able to.

Lee Corlett is now coming every second Thursday to provide the children with a fun physical programme. The children love having him here and adding some male energy is great.

Overall every day here is busy and full of energy as our children and the teachers learn and grow together.

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Lynda's Exercise Classes in the Mapua Hall.

Term 3 - a ten week term starts Tuesday July 21st, ends Friday Sep 25th.

Winter term start times for day-time sessions (note later finish times as well).

Tuesday	2.30-3.15pm	Sit and be Fit (seated exercise for Seniors/rehab - gold coin)
Tuesday	6pm-6.50pm	High Intensity Interval training rotating with Step-based toning and Cardio/Strength training every 2 nd week (no coordination required)
Tuesday	7.00pm-7.50pm	Pilates (all levels, beginner to advanced)
Wednesday	9.15am - 10.05am	Aerobics (the old-fashioned dance-around and sing-along kind)
Wednesday	10.10am - 11.00am	Pilates (all levels, beginner to advanced)
Thursday	9.15am - 10.05am	Aerobics (Wakefield) (same class as Wednesday Mapua)
Thursday	10.10am - 11.00am	Pilates (Wakefield) (all levels, beginner to advanced)
Friday	9.15am - 10.05am	High Intensity Interval training rotating with Step-based toning and Cardio/Strength training every 2 nd week (no coordination required)
Friday	10.10 - 11.00am	Pilates (all levels, beginner to advanced)

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Note the new system where you are paying for x number of sessions, not any particular session. If you book a particular session you are **guaranteed** a place; any extras are dependent on availability, first in first served. There will be **SIX extra FREE Saturday sessions** which you can use to make up for classes you might miss, **August 8th, August 29th and Sept 12th**. No casuals sorry (except on Saturdays, gold coin donation). Newcomers welcome. No special gear or talents required. Please email lynda@hht.co.nz, ph 5432268 or 027 222 1491 to reserve a place

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What has God ever done for us?

There's a *Life of Brian* or *Monty Python* sketch lurking in the background somewhere in most of us Western readers or TV-watchers. The material even transcends the generations to be familiar to those, at the time of their writing or performance, who weren't even born. Whatever your love/hate relationship with Python, its provocative and humorous take on life sometimes includes underlying profound questions.

The classic 'what have the Romans ever done for us?' scene from *The Life of Brian* is quite instructive. As the question is answered, a note of surprise is struck by the actual physical and social benefits that have actually been procured and implemented under the Roman regime. The scene culminates in saying that the Romans have brought 'peace' – the so-called Pax Romana.

Without a full critical analysis of the actual benefits under a Roman regimen—that would be interesting—the point is that to those who felt or who were 'oppressed', giving some thought to the actual regime yielded some surprising results.

When Jesus burst upon the scene of history, his sound bite message recorded faithfully in the Gospels (the Good News) was this:

"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15)

A studied analysis of his life and message will also yield some major surprises! It is often the case that for a number of reasons, folk ask the genuine question (often in a time of crisis), 'What has God ever done for us?'

Such a question is valid but it also demands an honest and thorough appraisal. For Christians, the impact of a relationship with God through Jesus Christ yields more than a lifetime of discovery of just what God has done for us. The nature and extent of God's 'reign' (the Kingdom of God) is expressed and fulfilled in Jesus. The price he paid was of infinite cost and value and it can yield a freely offered and freely received different kind of 'peace'—one for the present and for the eternal future. The apostle put it this way writing to Roman Christians:

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 5:1 NIV)

'What has God has ever done for us?' is a serious question—considering it seriously might surprise you.

Richard Drury

For more information on Tasman Bible Church go to www.tasmanbiblechurch.org.nz

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Rangers JAB Rugby



Thanks, thanks and thanks again to everyone who came and took part in our annual fund-raiser quiz night on 23 June. I'm sure everyone that attended will agree that It was a great night and we raised over \$2000 for the club!

We were donated some awesome prizes, and I would like to thank everyone listed below for their generosity, as without your support we could not give everyone who attends a prize whether you are on the winning team or the losing team.

Frank's Trees, Moutere Honey, Ambrosia Café, Moutere Gold, Stables Restaurant and Bar, Whenua Iti, Neudorf Mushrooms, Petite Fleur, FMG, Zumbahill Hillary Lattimer, Moutere Hills Community Centre, Moutere Inn, Moutere Hills Winery, About Chocolate, Super Liquor, Tasman Rugby Union, CLM Health & Fitness, Speights, Town and Country Motors, Woollaston Estate Winery, Keystone Building, Stables Restaurant and Bar, Moutere Indoor Cycling, Rosies Grove Olive Oil Proper, CrispsRedwood Cider, Kahurangi Winery, Talleys, Jan Heine, Our RD2 Upper Moutere Postie, Shanti Massage Therapy and Myofascial Release (Kim Saunders), the fantastic parents of our JABs and our awesome senior players.

Rangers JAB Rugby

Our JAB teams having been playing so well this season and having lots of fun on the field every Saturday. Thanks to those of you that have come down and supported the kids at our home games. It is a great sight to see our home grounds abuzz on a Saturday

morning with toddlers, kids, and adults all getting into the games.

We have also had a good response to opening the shop and selling hot drinks, hot chips and roast meat sandwiches as well as other yummy goodies. The shop is run by our volunteer parents, and goods donated from our kind sponsors, and all the profits go back into the club so thanks for supporting us. If you would like to come down and watch our JAB teams we will have JAB teams playing home games on 4 July from 9.30am onwards, and 25 July from 9.30am onwards.

Look out for our cool new JAB playing shirts due to be on the kids' backs by 27 June.

Rangers Senior B

July brings the wrap up of our Seniors games with their last game being played against Takaka on 4 July in Takaka. The season has gone by so quickly and our team has played hard – there have been losses and wins but regretfully not enough wins to get into the semi-finals this year. NEXT YEAR, BOYS! Thanks to everyone who came down and supported the boys when they were playing at home, and we hope to see you all down here again next season – maybe you would like to join in and play.

Don't forget to keep up to date with what is happening with the club, our draws, and any other news we may have by checking out our Facebook page RANGERS RUGBY CLUB.

For more information about our club you can contact Cindus 03 543-2033/ (027) 358 7233

Boat Club Invitation

Members of the Mapua Boat Club are invited to our regular social gathering held every Thursday in the club rooms from 5.30pm to 7pm. We enjoy a drink and a nibble and good company. Stay on for tea (fish and chips or whatever you organise) if you wish. Also, save the date, Saturday, 25 July, for our



Mid-Winter Dinner.

New members are very welcome. Anyone interested in the common interest of the sea, boating and the preservation of our wharf can join.

You don't have to own a boat. You will find us on the wharf at the southern end. Go past the Jellyfish Cafe and turn right.

Contact the secretary at mapuabcsecretary@gmail.com or phone the president, Annette Walker, on 540-2850.

Tiger Lilly Appeal

Many of you will have read about Tiger Lily, the Village cat, in the May edition of the *Coastal News*. A good number of people would know Tiger Lily personally as she wanders around the village from Perry's Garage at opening time to Zoom Hairdressing Salon, various village gatherings and the newly refurbished and re-named Sprig and Fern Tavern. She also calls on Mapua resident and real estate agent, Wendy Perry, when she is in need of care. Wendy, along with Chris and Katrina of Perry's Garage, are her unofficial guardians.

Tiger Lily is about 15 years old and has required visits to the local veterinary clinic for treatment from time to time. As everyone is aware, visits to the vet clinic are costly. However, our local vet kindly gives Tiger Lily a discount, which is a great help.

Donation tins have been placed at Perry's Garage and Zoom Hair Salon. Any financial assistance with the vet charges for Tiger Lily would be greatly appreciated. Excess funds will be held by the vet as a credit for Tiger Lily's aged care.

Thanks to all the people who have donated funds already. Tiger Lily and Wendy appreciate it.



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Moving to Mapua, an early account

Part three of a series of excerpts from the book, Turning Back the Clock by the late Iola McPherson. Iola moved from Nelson to Mapua in August, 1932, at the age of nine and this is part of her story.

Making the Best of Things

During The Depression when times were tough and rationing was necessary, we had to make the best of what we had. Flour and sugar were two of the items to be hit the worst. The flour came in bags made of good quality linen and these were useful for many items around the house, especially children's clothing. When the empty bags were boiled in the copper a few times, the brand marks usually washed out, and my mother then put them to good use making me dresses out of the larger flour bags and trimming them with lace. They could look very nice. With some of the bags one boiling wasn't enough to make the brand names disappear, so Mum used these to make bloomers for me – the long 'down to the knee' kind

One day I had some schoolgirls in to play and I decided to climb the plum tree to pick some plums to eat. While I was up there I heard a lot of giggling and laughter from the girls below. When I descended to the ground with the plums, I found out what the merriment was all about. Imagine my embarrassment when I was told I had 'Lilywhite' printed across my bottom! I smartly took the bloomers off and hid them in an old shed in a kerosene tin Mum kept for old rags. They were never to be seen again.

Our new house in Iwa Street was completed in 1934 and we moved in. The kitchen was always a busy room and the warmest spot in winter. This was where the family gathered by the wood stove, where we cooked the meals, heated the water and made toast over the hot coals on a toast fork with a long handle – toast was never the same when electric toasters came on the market.

Breakfast was porridge and milk, topped with sugar or golden syrup and a little dab of the cream off the top of the milk. Dad always had two fried duck eggs with his toast. We had ducks on the pond which was filled by the creek that flowed past our garage. The creek originated from a spring in a paddock by the school and flowed under the road by way of a tin drum which functioned as a culvert. Eventually the tin drum rusted through and was replaced by a concrete culvert.

When breakfast was over, we washed up the dishes in a big tin bowl on the table using soap suds made from Mum's home-made soap shaken up in a wire shaker. The table was then scrubbed down and covered with a thick, heavy red velvet cloth with a tasselled fringe around the edge. The kitchen was always made tidy right after breakfast in case visitors called.

Our first visitor in the morning was usually Sam Busch. He would wait until he saw the smoke coming out of the chimney, then he would come in for a cup



Lilywhite Flour at Anchor Mills flour mill, Oamaru 1930s

of tea and a piece of toast, bringing with him an armful of gorse wood for the fire. Sam didn't stay after his cuppa but he did take some bread to feed to his pet sheep. Sam grew sweet corn in the paddock by his house and the high corn plants served as a windbreak for a few rows of tobacco he also grew there. He offered me some corn one day; it was the first time I had eaten it or even, for that matter, seen it growing.

Later Sam gave the paddock to the croquet club. The club had just a few players then and they were all women. The men then formed a bowling club. It was next to the old tennis courts at the end of Toru Street. Eventually both of these areas were bought, cut up into sections and sold. The bowling club moved to a piece of land on the corner of Seaton Valley Road and the main road (now Mapua Drive). The women had their croquet green opposite the bowling club for a while until they finally joined the men playing bowls. The bowling club did move again – this time to alongside the Mapua Domain – and continues today with an active membership and ongoing success in local tournaments.

(A limited number of copies of Iola McPherson's book, Turning Back the Clock, are still available. Please ring Jeanette on 540-2769.)

Out and About with Hugh

Magna Carta: 800 years of liberty. The 15th of June marked the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta which was reluctantly signed by King John, the Wicked King of England.

Why was he called the Wicked King? Because he was responsible for high taxation, extortions, expropriation of land and for murder. He also had continual disputes with the Church which eventually led to his excommunication in 1209. Many of his barons rebelled and forced him to sign a peace treaty accepting their reforms.

This treaty, Magna Carta, limited royal powers, defined feudal obligations between the king and the barons and guaranteed a number of rights, eg, freedom of the church, the redress of grievances of owners and tenants of land, consulting The Great Council of the Realm to prevent unjust taxation, mercantile and trading relationships, regulating the machinery of justice and the requirement to control the behaviour of royal officials.



The most important reform was the establishment of the basis of habeas corpus, ie, that no one shall be imprisoned except by due process of law, and that ‘to no one we will sell, to no one will we refuse or delay right or justice’.

His barons forced him to sign “The Magna Carta,” which today is the document for which we owe our freedoms, of speech, of written expression, the writ of habeas corpus, our right to vote, trial by jury etc. In short, the basis for the free society we are privileged to experience, enjoy and protect. Precious rights we must never forget and always strive to protect.

That’s my history lesson for today.

Suburbia, Here We Come:

Mapua is on the move big time. Google “Mapua Real Estate” and you are presented with a large amount of real estate of all sorts for sale in the greater Mapua area. The overriding emphasis is on subdivisions with building sections, eg, Mapua Rise and Aporo View (to name two), plus the usual array of residential properties and individual sections. Prices vary from \$170,000 for 737 sq. m and upwards. Or, go for a house with the section for \$650,000. How about the Mapua Leisure Park for a million or so dollars? However you want to look at it, some big changes are under way in our community.

The TDC planning that has allowed the Mapua Ltd (Mapua Joint Venture) Subdivision to proceed with driveways accessing onto Mapua Drive is a disappointment. Mapua Drive (ex-State Highway 60) is now a Tasman District Council responsibility. The speed limit was initially set at 80kmh; that has now been reduced to 60kmh as the council suddenly realised that Mapua Drive was not a quiet residential street with vehicles entering and leaving from the driveways where the speed limit is 50kmh. No, Mapua Drive is the busy main feeder road from Richmond to the Mapua town centre. Accessing Mapua Drive from the 9 residential sections is a considerably increased traffic hazard. Mapua is a commuter town whose residents normally work elsewhere and a retirement community. One or the other. The operative words for all of this are “motor vehicles”. As I said recently in this column, “We love our cars.” Emissions, anybody?

Is this a reflection on our TDC planning foresight? The Mapua Ltd. Subdivision is the outgrowth of the Sonoma Orchards Subdivision which was approved many years ago and included driveways onto what is now Mapua Drive. That subdivision has been as of record for many years. Forward planning could have changed that. Draw your own conclusions.

“New Attempt at Subdivision.”

David Mitchell brings that question forcefully to mind with his observations and remarks in the *May Coastal News* regarding the application by Mapua Coastal Village to subdivide the land next to the Mapua Domain, which heretofore has been used for car parking for the Mapua Easter Fair. This is apparently a “non-notified” application. Here we go again. Who makes the decision to notify or not notify?

The June *Coastal News* headlines “Radical Government Powers to Boost Housing” and reveals that the TDC signed a “Tasman Housing Accord” agreement with the Government last April. It is an important read if you are interested in maintaining some level of independence for our community on a local level.

New colour scheme for Mapua with the big black and yellow rubbish bins: Should be a good and efficient scheme (get your days right).

The *Nelson Mail* ran a photo of our waterfront park toilet structure and tagged it (with tongue in cheek), “Flushed With Success.” Some called it the ugly blot on the horizon. I said “get a life and look to the future.” Now comes some recognition of its design with 2015 Nelson Marlborough Architecture Awards designer Jeremy Smith of Irving Smith Jack Architects. So there, it’s not an ugly blot; it’s won an award, flush and all.

Hugh Gordon

Winter Wellness Workshops in Upper Moutere

Dip your Toe in Holistic Health

Thursday July 23rd 7 – 8.30pm \$10

A chance to hear about 3 avenues to help yourself to stay in balance. A dash of yoga – what, how and why (and let's try a few postures!); a glimpse into the Hakomi Method – a gentle, mindfulness therapy; and a splash of herbal medicine – how it works, why it is different (and let's sample some potions!)

Taste Yoga - Beginners Workshop

Saturday July 25th 9 – 10.30am \$15

A gentle introduction into the basics of yoga. A chance to get on a yoga mat and learn a few moves. Suitable for complete beginners, stiff people, blokes, seniors...anyone curious to find out what yoga might offer.

Digesting Yoga – Intermediate Ashtanga Workshop

Saturday August 1st 8 – 11am \$25

For those who have done some yoga and would like to go a little further. Dropping more deeply into asana (poses), chanting and an introduction to the yoga sutras (philosophy). Includes an Ayurvedic brunch.

Functional Fertility

Monday August 3rd 7 – 9pm \$20

Explore women's reproductive cycles and gain an understanding of how to recognise different phases of fertility. Learn about the valuable information you can gain by observing your body and charting your cycles, and some natural remedies that might be useful too. Based on Natural Fertility Management (NFM) as developed by naturopath and author Francesca Naish. NFM can be used for effective natural contraception, overcoming fertility problems and pre-conception health care for healthy pregnancies and babies. Men welcome to attend! Ange Palmer is a trained NFM practitioner.

Yeah But What can I Do? (Exploring Our Responses to Environmental Calamity; A Community Conversation)

Sunday August 2nd 4 – 6pm Koha

Ever felt confused, overwhelmed, grief stricken or outright pissed off about our abuse of Mother Earth? Wondering where it will all lead?

As a group let's explore how we can really thrive while facing our future. How do we respond psychologically, physically, emotionally and spiritually to the fact that our life support systems are so threatened? How might we stay strong and react positively in these challenging times to help move humanity towards a more sustainable future?

Facilitators:

Ange Palmer has a unique perspective on this important topic. Weaving her experience as a Medical Herbalist, student and teacher of Ashtanga Yoga and Co-Producer of the award-winning climate justice documentary 2 Degrees, she offers the opportunity to cultivate this dialogue publicly as part of her ongoing work.

Stan van Uden is a body-oriented therapist working with the Hakomi Method. He has been exposed to many therapeutic models and has found Hakomi to be the most beneficial, gentle and profound. He utilises Hakomi techniques in his personal and working life, engaging with both groups and individuals. Stan is also an

outdoor guide who loves to play in the wilds and pursue adventure at every given opportunity.

Venue: Lancewood Villa, Kelling Rd, Upper Moutere.

Due to space limitations bookings are generally required.

Please email your name, contact phone number and the workshops you would like to attend to herbalist@angepalmer.com. Or phone 03 553 0353.

Ange Palmer is also available for wellness consultations in Upper Moutere.

www.angepalmer.com



Mahana School Centenary Coming Up

We are very excited that Mahana School will be celebrating 100 years in September! We welcome all past pupils to the school to join in with our celebrations and meet old friends.

The Syllabus

Friday 11 September:

Welcome Home! Come and wander through the school and see how things have changed, and how some things are just the same! Mix, mingle and meet other attendees and renew old friendships. Enjoy a tour of the school with one of our students and share your knowledge and experiences of the school. During the evening, enjoy a brilliant and exciting centenary school production at the local Upper Moutere Community Centre.

Saturday 12 September:

From 2pm onwards some very special centennial events, including afternoon tea and photos from each decade.

At 6pm Dinner and Dance at Woollaston Estates Winery. Put on your best clothes and enjoy a sumptu-

ous meal and some convivial company with some riveting speeches. (Yes we'd love you to share some tales too.) At 8pm its time to put on your dancing shoes and waltz, jive, or boogie the night away. Ticket price is \$65 or if you prefer to miss the meal and just mingle and dance afterwards then the price is \$10. Booking is essential.

Sunday 13 September:

The students at Mahana live in, under and around the trees so what better way to remember this event than to have one of Mahana's oldest past pupils help us plant a tree. We'll also be taking a relaxed trip back in time, with a bus tour around Mahana, where you will be able to contribute your experiences and places from the past.

Please note – Registration closes on 14 August
For more information contact:

Justin Neale, Principal
School Road, RD1, Upper Moutere
Ph 03 543-2887
www.mahana.school.nz



Tennis anyone? The way it looked in the early days at Mahana School.

Lost: Heavy blue trailer cover, on Stafford Drive between School and Ruby Bay, Monday 8 June. Reward. Phone: 540-2873

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Quiz Night

Saturday 25th July, 7.00 pm
Hills Community Church

\$5 Entry Fee Per Person
Includes a delicious homemade desert at half time.

Get a team together and come and have a fun night
This is a Fundraiser to help support the Elderly in the Community.



The Probus Club of Mapua and District

The main speaker at the June meeting of Mapua Probus was club member David Higgs, his subject being "Memories of a 10 pound POM (Prisoner of Mother England)." His report follows:

"My sister Janet came out from London to celebrate her 70th birthday. Much to my surprise she was able to give me an exercise book with a copy of 22 pages of letters kept by my mother that I wrote to my parents during my six weeks sailing to New Zealand in 1962.

Before reading the letters I gave a short talk on becoming an immigrant. My early experience was in dairy farming, working on several farms around south-eastern England. I had a year as a residential student at the Surrey Farm Institute Collage near Guildford. There I met a student from New Zealand nicknamed "Kiwi Keith." The farm college showed several films on farming in New Zealand. On completion of two years National Service with the RAF, I had a further 18 months working on dairy farms in Berkshire. There I met a milking machine serviceman working for the milking machine company Gascoigne's of Reading.

He gave me the address of the company and I applied for and got a position as a milking machine fitter. I worked on a variety of farms around the Home Counties close to London. My next move was to apply to New Zealand House in London for a two-year emigration contract for work in New Zealand. I was accepted as a milking machine fitter for J B MacEwan and Co based in Hamilton. Immigration accepted my contract when I paid my 10 pounds.

I was booked on the cruise ship *SS Orion*, which sailed from Tilbury on 31 March 1962. My parents and sister Janet drove me down to the docks with one large suitcase and a disassembled bike, plus a good supply of aerogrammes for writing home during the six-week voyage.

Generally life was very relaxing with the ship's staff giving plenty of entertainment and interests for the 770 passengers; the majority being Australian

immigrants getting off at Melbourne or Sydney. There were some dramatic days with the *Orion* sailing through rough water at the Bay of Biscay and the Australian Bight, with the majority of the passengers being sick and unable to eat for a few days. The *Orion* took on fare-paying passengers at the Australian ports before sailing across the Tasman arriving in Wellington in stormy weather. The majority of friends made on the trip agreed it would be a memorable event for the rest of their lives."

The mini-speaker was club member Jim Mitchell. He talked about the tour he and his wife Rita made of parts of America that started in 1962. Jim had a degree in chemistry and was doing research work at the university in Tallahassee. They bought a Volkswagen car for \$1800. They visited Washington DC and saw Capitol Hill and the Smithsonian Institute. They visited the spectacular Niagara Falls before going to New York. Close to the city they watched a woman parachutist jump from an aircraft. The parachute failed to open but she survived by landing in a lake.

At a later date they went on a four-week holiday that included North Dakota, stopping off at the Yellowstone National Park where they were allowed to feed the bears. Their next stop was Salt Lake in Utah. The water was warm and easy to float on, due to the high percentage of salt. Another impressive sight was the Grand Canyon. They also visited Las Vegas, a city of some 700,000 people. They went on to Death Valley and had a day at Disneyland.

David Higgs



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Progress on the Mapua Mosaic Project

If you go down to the skate park in the Mapua Domain, you can't miss that there's something different about the toilet block! The building wall facing the hall has received a makeover, thanks to a group of enthusiastic and talented volunteers.

Although it seemed to appear overnight, it took almost four months of regular workshop sessions to create the nine panels. For anyone who likes facts and figures, we held 21 sessions between 26 January and 17 May, attended by 21 different people, some of whom came to almost every session, and a few who came just once in their school holidays with grandma! We even had a seasonal visitor take part—Joan from Norwich joined in while she visited Mapua for her annual summer stay. Many of the participants had never before tried their hand at mosaicing, and became very adept at choosing and cutting, shaping and placing the pieces.

If you get close enough to see the details, you'll be able to find a number of imaginative creatures and flowers that were made especially for this project. These were created by a group of very artistic children attending pottery workshops held by Lindsey Furlong-Taylor at the Wee Shop in Ruby Bay. They were fired by Mike Perry, and add that special something that tiles alone would not have achieved.

We are once again indebted to a number of different people and entities: to the Tasman District Crea-

tive Communities Trust, as well as to the Mapua and Ruby Bay Community Trust for their generous financial support. Local graphic artist, Ray Bolderson, sketched the original design which included nearly all the elements that were suggested to us in the planning stage for this, the second wall of the project. Ardex New Zealand gave us a special deal on our tile adhesive, Tile Direct offered us a mosaicer's discount on some materials, and Placemakers gave us a good price on the Villaboard we used for our base boards. And we couldn't have managed without Ian Twin and Dave Green when their building expertise was required. Dave and Chris have been fabulous at adding the finishing touches.

Feedback suggests that people like the visual impact that this project adds to what is a very well-used area of the Mapua Domain. It has been such a lot of fun, and I think quite a few of us have 'mosaic withdrawal' now that the project is over for the year (although we have more time in the week for our gardens and other regular activities that took a back seat for a while!)

But we are already collecting ideas for the next wall, so if you have suggestions, please do pass them on, via the *Coastal News*, if you like!

Once again, thank you to everyone whose support and enthusiasm has made this possible.

Bridget Castle

Letters to the Editor

Hall Help Appreciated

Kia ora koutou. On behalf of the Mapua community I am writing for the Hall Committee to thank two local organisations for their generous koha to the community.

Firstly the members of the Coastal Garden Group for the donation of soil, plants, thought and expertise to replant the kerbside garden outside the hall. This is much appreciated and brings a whole new lease of life to the start of the whole landscaping project.

We are also most appreciative of other community members who gave their time in removing the previous plants and preparing the new planting structure. This replanted garden will give pleasure to the many passers-by as well as to the hall users.

Secondly we would like to thank the Mapua Show Organisation who (when closing) kindly donated their remaining funds to the hall to enable the resourcing of shows and events for the community there. Again through you, can we please convey a major thanks. This combined with other grants and people's time and enthusiasm is enabling the hall to become a suitable venue for shows and events.

Thank you to all of you.

Elena Meredith on behalf of the Mapua Community Hall Committee).

Russian Speaker Wanted

I am trying to locate a Russian speaker who could help me with a brief translation of a greetings card sent to me from a family in Belarus. If there is anyone in the Mapua area who could help, please contact me on 03 540-2934.

Sue England

Liz Collett



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Kia Ora Koutou. The week I am writing this we are busy making lanterns for our annual, magical Matariki celebration—another Maori Year gone by—it happened so fast. This year in preparation for Matariki we talked about the things visible at daytime and the things we can see at night. For the night poster every child drew their very own star constellation to decorate the night sky.

We also learned some more about the Matariki star constellation; we learned that Matariki and her six daughters (Waiti, Waita, Waipunarangi, Tupui-a nuku, Tupu-a-rangi and Ururangi) is a family of stars that visits Papatuanuku, their Great Grandmother

Earth, every year to help her prepare for the New Year, the new growing year. Each one of them has a special gift to share to bring energy to all her different environments. (For more detailed information the Te Papa website is a great resource.)

The day poster that the children created as a team is so bright and colourful that it is a joy to look at, especially on some of these dull, grey, rainy days that we recently had.

Not that our children worry about rain; in fact they have been welcoming every heavy downpour because it meant that the fairy pond in the forest actually transformed into a rather large fairy lake opening up more challenges and experiences for them. They learned to balance and negotiate the newly built bridge and stepping logs and took turns being a gondolier and transport their friends around in the kayak. So much fun!

Some of you might want to hear a bit more often about the exciting things happening at Harakeke – you can do so now by checking out our newly established Facebook page.

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Hills Community Church



There is always something interesting going on at The Hills Community Church—last Sunday it was the celebration of a 100th birthday, soon it will be the mid-winter dinner. At the moment, while the Rev John Sherlock is on sabbatical leave in Kenya until mid September, I am the assisting minister.

Although new to the community (in terms of ministry) my wife and I have always been attracted to Mapua, driving across from Wakefield on many occasions. Mapua seems to be the subject of ongoing change, with a number of new subdivisions being created along with tourist development at the port.

The community is not alone in this movement of change for within the church there is always the challenge on how best to maintain its plant and strengthen its people, while reaching out in a positive way into the community through its various ministries.

However, amongst all this change there is one constant and that is the love of God for those who would believe in his Son Jesus Christ. This is not a superficial love but an all enveloping love for those whose hope is in him. Come and visit us at HCC, drop into the office Tuesday and Wednesdays, I would love to chat with you.

Keep warm.

Rev. Dale Pomeroy (retired)

Hills Community Church is a community-based church with historical roots in the Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist and Pentecostal traditions. We offer

traditional and contemporary worship in an informal and relaxed style. Visitors and newcomers are most welcome.

Sunday Worship: 9am, Traditional service. 10:30am Contemporary service & Children's programme including crèche; Holy Communion celebrated at both services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays with morning tea in-between.

Weekly Calendar:

Wednesdays: 10am-noon—Kidz n Koffee. Open to parents-caregivers-pre-K kids—a great way to make new friends!

Fridays: 10am-noon—Craft n Coffee—learn a craft & share a laugh! Open to all, crèche provided.

Drop-off for area food bank – Bring your non-perishable food items to the church (122 Aranui Road) on Friday mornings between 10am & noon.

We offer numerous activities throughout the week. Contact 540-3848 for more information.

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Pastel Artists of NZ

I am the worst reporter! My absence from our Tuesday painting sessions has been marked but hey, a girl needs a holiday every now and then. Four weeks swanning around Central America can't be bad. But what a girl doesn't need on her return is a raging chest infection that has kept her inside, isolated and decidedly wheezy (absolutely nothing to do with the Cuban cigars) for a fortnight. Thank goodness for Mole. Mole has whispered in my ear and I'm back up to scratch with the happenings of Nelson PANZ.

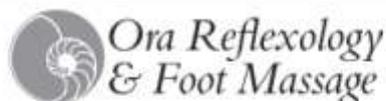
We were very fortunate that Penelope Gilbert Ng PSA (Pastel Society of America) included Mapua in her schedule of workshops around New Zealand during a recent visit from her Queensland home. Several members enjoyed two days of instruction with Penelope, learnt much about 'under painting' and some masterly work was produced. Workshops do challenge the comfort zone but are a great opportunity to enhance and hone painting skills.

The International Association of Pastel Societies exists to promote the medium of soft pastel and to improve communication between pastel artists. Its 2015 convention, run by volunteers and held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the start of June offered a full and varied programme including workshops led by many painters of international repute.

There were 567 people registered for the event including two members of Nelson PANZ who decided to go along for the ride. Glenys Forbes and Judy March flew the Kiwi flag, tasted the tacos, tipped on tequila and returned home with a warm, fuzzy feeling. Glenys reports that everyone was so welcoming and very willing to pass on knowledge. As a group now we are all eager to share their new-found knowledge and it seems like we should start saving for 2017.

If you want to find out more about pastels and the PANZ art group in Mapua visitors are always welcome. Just call into the Community Hall on a Tuesday morning between 9am and 12 noon when you see the PANZ board outside. Or contact Glenys Forbes on 540-3388 for more information.

Sue England (540-2934)



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What's On at the Hall In July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sun
 www.facebook.com/ mapuacommunityhall		1 9am Yoga 9:15am Aerobics 10:10am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi	2 9am Mapua Art Group 3.30pm Karate 6pm Zumba 7.30 Mapua & Districts comm. Assc. meeting	3 9am Yoga 9:15am Aerobics 10:10am Pilates 1pm Probus 6.30pm HCC Mapua Youth Group	4	5
6	7 9am PANZ 1pm Beginners Tai Chi 6pm Yoga	8 9am Yoga 12.30pm Tai Chi	9 9am Mapua Art Group	10 9am Yoga	11	12 4.45pm Mapua Mystery Movie Night
13 7pm Mapua & Districts Comm. Assc. Meeting	14 9am PANZ 10am Mapua Creative Fibre 1pm Beginners Tai Chi 6pm Yoga	15 9am Yoga 12.30pm Tai Chi	16 9am Mapua Art Group 2pm Friendship Club	17 9am Yoga	18	19
20 Mapua Hall AGM 7pm All Welcome	21 9am PANZ 1pm Beginners Tai Chi 2.30 Sit & Be Fit 3.45 Mapua Junior Music Club 6pm Cardio/Pump 6pm Yoga 7pm Pilates	22 9am Yoga 9:15am Aerobics 10:10am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi	23 9am Mapua Art Group 3.30pm Karate 6pm Zumba	24 9am Yoga 9:15am Aerobics 10:10am Pilates 2pm Friendship Club 6.30pm HCC Mapua Youth Group	25 12pm Painting Class	26
27 7pm Waterfront Park Group Meeting	28 9am PANZ 1pm Beginners Tai Chi 2.30 Sit & Be Fit 3.45 Mapua Junior Music Club 6pm Cardio/Pump 6pm Yoga 7pm Pilates	29 9am Yoga 9:15am Aerobics 10:10am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi	30 9am Mapua Art Group 3.30pm Karate 6pm Zumba	31 9am Yoga 9:15am Aerobics 10:10am Pilates 6.30pm HCC Mapua Youth Group	www.mapuahall.org	



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- 2/6/15 Alarm activation at the Upper Moutere School, turned back. Burnt toast.
- 12/6/15 Differential oil fire on fuel tanker at Trafalgar Rd/SH60. Fire put out by driver. Brigade cool down unit, wash road.

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We've included a number of tools designed to keep you safe. There are alerts reminding you to check your smoke alarms and to clean your gutters of autumn leaves (a real fire hazard). We need to let you know when it's safe to burn and when fires are banned. Then there are critical updates on household issues or appliance recalls etc.

In addition we've published and are adding to a whole library of articles and videos that we hope you'll enjoy ... and if you're interested you can even see who your volunteers are!

So let's connect! Simply pop along to www.firebuddy.co.nz and register with your email and we'll do the rest. Please also share us on your social media pages and tell your neighbours ... Together we can help avert the worst.

We'd also like to say a big thank you to the Coastal News for this page ... each month we'll bring you more articles and updates so let us know what you want to read about.

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Under The Bonnet with Fred

Brrrm Brrrm in Broome



This story came about because of the delays by Virgin Airlines at Broome airport in Western Australia. A 10am flight was cancelled and moved 12.20pm then to 3.30pm, which made for lots of waiting. The mostly Aussies waiting in the airport were all having a beer as per their culture and by 3.30pm there was a party going on. Everyone was talking and socialising. Maybe it was something Western Australian, and as locals say, everything is different in WA. While I was there thinking what to write for the July *Coastal News* maybe my observations on motoring in Broome will be interesting.

I must say Toyota's 4WD division does very well in Broome. I recommend a Toyota Landcruiser as there will always be parts in service in Broome. The Landcruisers came in the base model 100 series, nearly always white, to the flasher VX models which seem to be silver in colour, mostly maybe to distinguish them as the VX. Both colours look good in the hot sun. Hilux utes and 80 series Landcruiser's were used mostly by tradies and mine or off-shore drilling companies. But everyone had a snorkel to the air cleaner to avoid that red Broome dust from choking the air filters.

One of our day trips was to Roebuck, 30km north, to the Roebuck truck stop to see the road trains. On TV they don't look that big but a Scania pulled in which was two stories high with four fuel tanks each side for it to be able to complete its long journeys.

We were having a drink in the outside lounge of the truck stop where there was an aerosol can of insect deterrent on every table, and a real Aussie outbacker got talking to us.

What a character! He spoke with a real hard Aussie accent and had stories about driving the road trains to amuse us. He reckoned he drove around Australia in 13 days, Perth to Sydney, up to Darwin, across the top to Broome and back down to Perth. I'm not an Aussie but unless he had a co-driver it might have been a tall story to tell the tourists.

Our little Hyundai Elantra was hired on the condition we didn't take off the sealed roads. Well, a trip to the Pearl Farm was \$165 on their bus or \$75 if we drove there ourselves. All was good in the Hyundai until we started on the dusty, bumpy red-sand roads to the pearl farm. There were 30m wide channels with 100mm deep corrugations which required choosing the best place to be for comfortable driving which was sometimes on the wrong side of the road. We found braking for heavy corrugations actually made the bumpy ride worse. We all doubted whether we were going the right way as we were told to watch out for the red markers and half-way there we still had not seen one.

With all the drama with the bumps and driving on the wrong side of the road we weren't sure how far we had come! Thoughts of being stranded lost in the Outback crossed my mind. Then after the dust had cleared from a local driving past at three times our speed, a red marker appeared. Phew! The thing about taking cars on the dusty road is they can't handle the bumps and exhaust systems and hub caps come off.

What sort of vehicle do you need to drive across the top of Australia? Going on what we saw the very well equipped Toyota Landcruisers and Nissan Patrols with all the gear are popular. Snorkels for the dust, jacks to lift your vehicle should you get stuck in that red sand, ramps to drive over soft spots in the road, double spare wheels and—a must—big water bottles. Some of the caravans being towed were bullet-proof. Trevor, my brother-in-law who had worked in the mines with Aboriginies had some good advice: they said you didn't need a 4wd, a Falcon would do; just drive slowly, take more water than you think you need and don't put detergent in your screenwasher water bottle as you might have to drink it.

Recommended: Matso's Brewery right by the beach, good food, great location and Mango beer for something different. I might have a go at driving across the top in a Ford Falcon too.

Fred Cassin

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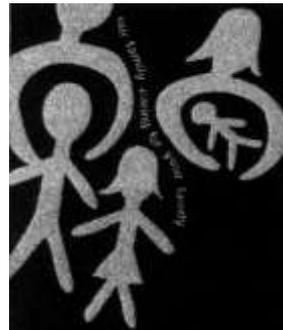
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Riverside Café

Riverside Café is currently closed for our Winter Break and will re-open on Sat 1st August at 9.30am

See You in August!

 [Riversidecafe&CommunityNZ](https://www.facebook.com/Riversidecafe&CommunityNZ)

Sculptures Project Update

As many of you who have been keeping abreast of progress will know, a small team of people have been working behind the scenes on this ambitious project over the past few years.

The Ruby Coast Initiative Trust has been successful in working with the Tasman District Council and the wider community to create a vision for a series of iconic sculptures at the gateways to the Ruby Coast.

Having successfully raised funds for the Tasman sculpture through the generosity of our local community, construction is proceeding. The structural frame is complete, and the first stage of finishing of the work-hardened stainless steel skin, donated with the generosity of Nelson Pine Industries, is done.

The plasma cutting of the birds is taking shape and we expect the installation will take place during July, with the official opening targeted at early August (watch this space).

In the meantime our attention is also turning to the Mapua Sculpture. Fund-raising has already begun. Loretta Bowden was the successful winner of our raffle (ticket number 196) and is now the proud

owner of Betty Salter's original painting! All money raised from this raffle will go towards the Mapua Sculpture, the second of three planned sculptures for the Ruby Coast area.

Loretta was thrilled to receive the painting presented to her by Ron Oliver (RCIT chair) and artist Betty Salter.

Spot the similarities between the painting—Mapua Montage—and the background in the photo! For the rest of you who missed out on the original, you can still order a quality signed print for \$30. All proceeds from these sales will also go toward the sculpture fund-raising. To order, contact Janet Taylor on 540-3364 or send a message via the Trust's website – www.rcit.co.nz

Many thanks to all who purchased tickets, and thanks to Mapua Auto, Mapua Dental and Jester House for supporting this project by selling tickets. Finally, sincere thanks to Betty for her very special contribution to the Sculpture Project.

If you are interested in making a personal donation to the Mapua sculpture, you can go to www.rcit.co.nz/donating where you will find everything you need to know. Alternatively you can donate by credit card through our Givealittle website page, givealittle.co.nz/donate/org/rubycoastsculpture.



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Waterfront Park Proposals for Public Perusal

The Waterfront Park and Mapua Wharf area have had a singular and special history. From the earlier iwi enjoyment of this fine corner of the bay to today's busy hub of relaxed hospitality, the estuary entrance has been a great place to sit and enjoy quality time and good food, a place of plenty. Now there is a new plan to add to this with a community development project.

The Waterfront Park is owned by the Tasman District Council and has been landscaped and developed as part of the site remediation plan. The Community Association is launching a proposal to upgrade the Waterfront Park so that it has a family and health focus, as well as including cooking and eating facilities. This is an ambitious project and one that will need a great deal of support and funding help.

The vision is to have several children's play areas, a free barbecue, exercise stations, a petanque piste and picnic tables added to the park. A small team from the community and the TDC has been working up this proposal over the past few months.

Exercise stations, where low-impact structures are built into the park, will be welcomed by many who have used these sorts of facilities elsewhere. A circuit of about 10 activities around the park will encourage us all to take care of our bodies and enjoy the view!

For those who want to play, a piste or petanque square is planned. A free gas barbecue and picnic tables will add some sizzle to the equation and include some shelter from the elements.

The group also sought the views of children about what kind of play areas and what kind of park they would like.

About 200 enthusiastic responses from 42 groups of children from pre-school through primary age groups clearly focused on a sea theme, shipwreck playground, ropes and ladders, bridges, mounds and tunnels with fishes and sea-life decorations.

A welcoming entry, plus good information signs are needed. An interpretative panel covering the iwi story, the chemical site, clean-up and later development will help to tell the history of this area.

Safe pedestrian linkage from the wharf area to the Waterfront Park is also a high priority for the Community Association's safety requirements.

Once the proposal has been properly aired and tweaked, the elements will go to design, funding and procurement stages. As the money comes in we can get on with this exciting phase of the Waterfront Park developments.

This is a Community Association proposal and is run by volunteers. The help you can bring may be donation, offers of labour or materials, or joining the association. The doors are always open. This community is only as good as it is because of the energy and commitment of us all to make it so.

*Grahame Stradling, on behalf of the
Mapua Community Association.*




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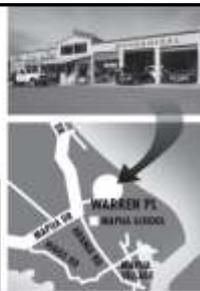
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It is important to be aware that less tyre tread means less space for water to drain away from under the tyre. This results in reduced tyre contact with the roads surface which dramatically hinders the tyres ability to grip on to the road causing a vehicle to aquaplane.

Aquaplaning is extremely dangerous and occurs when a wedge-shaped film of water builds up between the tyre and the road surface. This causes the tyre to be lifted off the road and results in the driver losing control of the vehicles steering and the brakes being rendered useless. The less tread a tyre has, the higher the risk of aquaplaning.



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JULY 2015 What's On Guide

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M T W T F S S

	30	1	2	3	4	5	
	The Deep End Youth Evening \$15, Kids \$12 Show 730pm Dinner from 530pm	Closed	Closed	LA Dance Troop Fundraiser \$15, 730pm Dinner 6pm	Nelson Big Band Americana Night Wonderful Jazz Glenn Miller Styles Great dancing for your work function \$10, 8pm	Open for lunch 11am till 4pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
			The All Seeing Hand & Seth Frightning \$10, 8pm Alt Rolk from AK & WEL	Darron Watson & Matt Langley Blues & folk \$20, 8pm	Book Binder Breathtaking Play Great for all ages \$20, \$10 kids, 8pm Dinner from 6pm	Open for lunch 11am till 4pm	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
ROCKCAMP JULY 2015 July 13th till 17th, 9 till 4, For kids ages 9 till 14, \$350 included food and concert Learn to play in a band, gain new skills, make new friends, have a good time!							
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
STOKE SENIORS LUNCH		Probus Lunch		DISCO NIGHT Music from 7pm All the classics FREE!!	Cormac's Cabaret Fundraising event for Hospice Heaps of local talent \$20 EB, 8pm Dinner from 6pm	Open for lunch 11am till 4pm	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
	The Andrew London Trio Thurs 13th August			A HORI BUZZ Amazing Funk \$20, DJs from 7pm This will sellout	International Blues Music Day Loads of bands, Solos, and duos \$20, Music 7pm	Open for lunch 11am till 4pm	
3	FREE VENUE HIRE For your private function till Nov (conditions apply)			6	7	8	9
				JIB JAM 2015 FREE EVENT Live Ski and snowboarding Riding 630pm DJ's after event	Open for lunch Closed for Function Evening	Open for lunch 11am till 4pm	

WWW.PLAYHOUSECAFE.CO.NZ or call 5402985



MAPUA AND DISTRICTS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Coordinator: Janet Ph 540 3364

Tessa Mae's with Attitude

The iconic Tessa Mae's with Attitude is one of the most recognisable businesses in the Tasman region.

It's little wonder that the locally owned and operated business has achieved a great following in its fifteen years, much of this through a reputation of providing great customer service and supplying superior gifts and homewares.

Glenys has decided to have more leisure time and has sold the business to her youngest son and daughter in-law, Charles and Catherine Osmond. Not to worry though Glenys is still enjoying a couple of days a week at the shop to pass on her wealth of experience.

Catherine mentioned that "It's been a fantastic few months since we have taken over and would like to thank everyone for their support as we go from strength to strength".

Catherine works in the business and handles the day to day operation. Charles helps out over the weekends and has found that he has a hidden talent when it comes to handbags, you wouldn't think so when you meet him!!!

Charles stated that it was wonderful meeting everyone that comes into the store and one of the highlights for him was the repeat custom plus being able to help customers find what they need.

Charles and Catherine went on to say that the format of the shop will stay the same, with Tessa Mae's continuing to supply the latest trends to our customers.

Tessa Mae's is so much more than a gift shop, pop in next time you are in Mapua, you never know what you might find.



Open 7 Days. P: 540 2799 E: info@tessamaes.co.nz

www.rubycostmouterehills.co.nz



The MDBA committee farewelled Nic Roland who stepped down after two terms as Chair at the recent AGM. Also farewelled from the committee was LJ Lawson. Both have made significant contributions to the Association and will be missed. Del Trew is the new Chairperson, with existing committee member Debbie Watson taking on the Vice-Chair position. Nicky McBride and Tim Kelly continue in their respective roles as Secretary and Treasurer. Existing members Lis Pedersen and Richard Ewbank have been joined on the committee by new comers Jill Archibald and Flynn Perry. The new committee welcomes members' views and ideas for events and activities that will continue to support businesses in our local area.

Local Accounting firm **First Class Accounts Mapua** has moved to a fantastic new location at 69 Aranui Road (Next to Zoom).

First class Accounts Mapua is the Head office for First Class Accounts NZ – In 2007 John Brydon and Paul Andrews hatched a plan to replicate the endearing attributes of a small firm with the corporate muscle of a professional brand and First Class Accounts New Zealand was formed. We now have 20 First Class offices around the country and Mapua is the base of this growing national brand.

With the power of a brand behind them, Flynn Perry works alongside John ensuring the highest level of client service, as maintaining the small firm feel is vital – the door is always open. Flynn is a certified Xero advisor and they are more than happy for you to come in for a non-obligation free quote.

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- Year-end Accounts – to help review and understand your past to help improve your future,
- Financial Forecasts and Planning – to explore new markets and business opportunities, planning growth, capital expenditure and financial needs so there are no surprises
- Monthly Cash Flow Reporting – to keep you on track so you achieve your personal targets,
- Preparation and filing of GST and PAYE – to take away that monthly headache,
- Rental Accounts and much, much more!



The office is open Monday – Friday from 9am and they welcome you to come and have a chat about how they can make your numbers all add up!

69 Aranui Road, Mapua. P: 5402751

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Noticeboard

Senior Moments will meet 29 July from 10am to noon at Hills Community Church, Aranui Rd. All seniors are welcome. Contact Heather 543-2018 or heatherhead@ts.co.nz

Yoga. Ashtanga flowing, dynamic class. \$15 every Tues 6.15-7.45pm. At Lancewood Villa, U. Moutere. 5 week beginners course \$70 Tues 5-6pm starts July 14th - please pre-register. www.angepalmer.com, ph 553-0353, herbalist@angepalmer.com

Ruby Coast Newcomers Social Group: meet new people, make new friends. We have coffee at 10am last Friday of each month at Tasman Store & hold ad hoc day & evening social events. Info: Vivien/Richard 526-6707, vpeters @xtra.co.nz, or just turn up.

Coastal Garden Group meet first Thursdays, 1.00pm, Tasman Bible Hall. Members, guests & visitors welcome. Ngaire, 540-3193

Women's Recreation Group - meets outside Mapua Mall Thursdays. Leaves 9.15am for 1½hr walk. Route varies. Join us whenever you can. Some members may cycle. Info Lynley 540-2292.

Mapua Art Group meets in Bill Marris Room, Mapua Hall Thursday mornings, 9 to noon. Like-minded artists get together to paint, draw, help each other in a fun, social environment. All levels & media welcome. \$5 /session includes morning tea. Tables, chairs & easels provided. Cushla Moorhead 03 528 6548.

Mapua Friendship Club meets twice a month, 3rd Thursdays & last Fridays, at Mapua Hall for a game of indoor bowls and bring-a-plate afternoon tea. New members are enthusiastically welcomed, no prior bowling experience needed, our game is non-competitive, just a lot of laughs. \$3 door fee and 20¢ raffle. Contact: Val 540-3685.

Mapua Social Cycling Group: "Wheels 2 Meals". Approx 20 – 30 km ride with coffee break at halfway point and no racing! Departing from outside the Golden Bear, Mapua wharf. When? Each fine Thursday @ 9:30 am. Anyone interested - just turn up with your bike, "Hi Vis" top and coffee money or contact me by email wheels2meals@gmail.com

Ruby Coast Walking Group meets every Wednesday morning at 9.30am outside Tasman Store, Aporo Road, Tasman. We walk for about 1½ hours around the area and then enjoy a coffee and muffin back at the Store. Walk according to your ability and speed. Newcomers to the area and everyone (including couples) are very welcome. Just turn up or contact Fiona - 526-6840 or fiona.oliver @xtra.co.nz

Probus Club meets at Mapua Hall, 1.30 pm, first Friday of each month. Guest speaker at each meeting for about an hour's talk on various subjects. After

afternoon tea a club member will give a short talk of their interest. Now in its 15th year, new members always welcome. President: Janice Higgs, 03 528-8883, Secretary: Rita Mitchell, 03 528-8097

Motueka SeniorNet: Get tech savvy and share more family experiences. Community computer support for 50+. Training courses for iPads, Phones, Tablets, PC and Mac. Members meeting 10am first Monday of month. 42 Pah Street, Motueka. www.seniornetmotueka.org.nz

Spinners, Knitters, Weavers – Creative Fibre Group meet Mapua Hall, 2nd Tuesdays 10am. All welcome.

Moutere Hills Rose Society. A gardener with a special love of roses? We meet monthly - contact Margaret 03 528-8477 or Cynthia 03 528-8664.

Toy Library: extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. Mapua Hall every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10-11.30am & 6.30-7.30pm. Phone Anja, 544-8733, about membership or casual hire.

Kidz 'n' Koffee playgroup: 10am – noon, Wednesdays during school term at Old Church Hall, Aranui Rd. All parents and caregivers welcome, we cater for 0-6 yrs. Gold coin donation for a delicious morning tea. Come and make some new friends. Info: Bridget, 540-2572.

Daytime Book Group: Meets first Tuesdays at 9.45am. New members welcome. Phone Anne 540-3934

Fair Exchange: We meet the second & fourth Wednesdays of the month. 9am at Hamish Café to exchange homemade or homegrown items. Info: Debbi, 540-2942 or DLBamfield@gmail.com.

Qi-gong, Yuan Gong form, weekly in Mapua. Info: Marianne, 546-8584 or bmtc @xtra.co.nz

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Laying out: Artist Adi Tait laying out bird shapes for plasma cutting on a sculpture to be erected marking an entrance to the Ruby Coast. (See page 29)

Ring of Fire, a short story by Peter Francis

The little red Honda splashed its way up a puddled, muddy driveway to the two-storied house next to the Mapua Fire Station. Simone turned off the ignition, the engine wheezed, spluttered and rattled to a stop like an old man with emphysema.

“Whose house is this?” asked Carson.

“One of our volunteer librarians, I want to swap duties with her. I won’t be long, darling. When I come back we’re going to see your school principal to complain about those bullying classmates of yours I heard calling you ‘Toilet’. I’ll leave the key in the ignition so you can listen to the radio.”

Head down against the driving rain, she hurried up the path and pressed the doorbell. She heard it jangle then slow, purposeful footsteps. As the door swung open she saw he was wearing his fireman’s uniform and let out a sharp gasp. The next moment she was inside the house and wrapped in his arms. She nuzzled into him, moaning softly, whispering in his ear, “I can’t take long. My son’s waiting in the car.” She felt him flinch and loosen his embrace. “It’s all right, he thinks I’m meeting someone from our library.” Tangled together like blackberry vines they stumbled upstairs.

Carson, bored stiff, was sitting in the car with Johnny Cash singing *Burn-burn-burn like a ring of fire* when he saw it. There in the fire station yard was a shiny steel fireman’s pole running down one side of a square two-story blockhouse. On the opposite side was a long ladder. He couldn’t resist such temptation. What 12-year old boy could? When he got to school tomorrow and told all his stupid classmates they would be so envious. Maybe they wouldn’t tease him and call him WC (for “Woosie Carson”) any more.

Locked in an embrace, they were responding to each other’s slightest move like professional figure skaters. Suddenly he stopped kissing and thrust her away.

“Huh-huh-what-what’s wrong?”

“Someone’s watching us”.

“Where?”

“There, through the window.”

“We’re on the second floor; it’s probably your reflection.”

“Go look for yourself.”

Carson climbed the ladder and raced across the roof, wrapping his legs around the shiny pole. Preparing to slide down he noticed movement in the window next door. He could see a man wearing a fireman’s uniform, eyes closed, clutched in a passionate embrace with... his mother! Shit! Is Mum having an affair with a fireman? The man stopped moving and stared straight at Carson.

Although not popular Carson was bright. Releasing the tight grip of his legs, he slid speedily down the pole, ran behind the square building and hid beneath shrubs.

Simone straightened her clothing, walked to the window and peered through the raindrops. There was a shiny pole next to a tall square building but not a person to be seen. “No, there’s no-one there. You must have imagined it. Sorry, I’ll have to leave now. My son will be wondering why I’ve taken so long.”

When no one appeared Carson crept back into the car, locked the door and turned up the radio volume, gradually growing more and more angry with his mother’s fireman.

Glancing at her wristwatch as she left the house, Simone saw that just 12 minutes had elapsed since she left Carson.

The day his teacher took their class to learn about marine creatures at Mapua’s fabulous *Touch the Sea* aquarium was when Carson’s plot to severely punish his mother’s lover began to evolve. While the stupid boys were wandering around in absolute boredom and the pathetic girls squealed and screeched every time one of them touched a live sea animal, Carson overheard the curator talking to his teacher.

“No, my name’s Tasman. I’m not actually the owner. I’m a marine biologist and work here full time. The owner works here only occasionally. He’s a volunteer fireman.”

Carson knew that to be successful his revenge would need to be well planned. On the first dark moonless night he loaded the items stolen from dad’s garden shed into his backpack, then silently cycled down the hill toward Mapua.

The aquarium was just a short distance from the fire station. In order to allow his intended blaze sufficient time to take a firm hold he needed to create a diversion to draw fire-fighters away from the real fire.

His plan was to first set fire to the tennis club shed, which proved even more successful than he’d hoped. Within minutes he heard the fire siren wailing.

As he pedalled toward the aquarium he could hear volunteer firemen’s cars arriving at the station. Once the fire engines had driven off, he used his dad’s tomahawk to smash the rear window and entered the dark, silent aquarium.

Nervously looking around, he switched on his helmet light and began pouring the contents of the fuel can around the large tanks of sea creatures. The pungent stench of petrol burning his nostrils made him feel ill. Suddenly gagging, he lent over the stingray tank and threw up.

Riding home along the water’s edge he was confident the incoming tide would soon obliterate his tyre tracks. The sky was glowing brightly behind him. He smiled as he smelt acrid smoke and heard the loud crackling of flames over the heavy rumble of the sea. That’ll teach that flaming fireman, he thought.

Next morning the headmaster addressed the school assembly. “After last night’s appalling events at Mapua wharf the aquarium’s owner is flying down to Nelson. He’s the chief fire officer in Martinborough and hasn’t visited Mapua for more than a year. The aquarium was his lifetime work. He’ll be devastated.”

Oh no! He had punished the wrong fireman, Carson realised. He knew now he could never tell his classmates—or anyone! It would always have to remain a mystery.